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LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Amended) An interlocking seating system comprising:

a support understructure;

a plurality of seat modules, each of said seat modules includes a body member having a first interlocking means and a second interlocking means respectively positioned on a first and an opposing second side of said body member; and,

a plurality of fasteners;

wherein said first interlocking means is adapted to receive said second interlocking means, thereby allowing adjacent seat modules to interlock and be secured to said support understructure by said fasteners inserted through said interlocked interlocking means;

wherein said first interlocking means and said second interlocking means further include openings defined therethrough; and

wherein said opening defined through said first interlocking means are of a different size than said opening defined through said second interlocking means to allow lateral and rotational motions between said interlocked adjacent seat modules.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Amended) An interlocking seating system comprising:

a support understructure;

a plurality of seat modules, each of said seat modules includes a body member having a first interlocking means and a second interlocking means respectively positioned on a first and an opposing second side of said body member; and,

a plurality of fasteners;

wherein the interlocking means of a first seat module is adapted to receive the interlocking means of a second seat module, thereby allowing two adjacent seat modules to interlock and be secured to said support understructure by said fasteners inserted through said interlocked interlocking means;

wherein said plurality of seat modules comprises interior seat modules and aisle seat modules, said interlocking means of said interior seat modules comprise a tab and a blind rabbet, and said interlocking means of said aisle seat modules comprise two blind rabbets, said blind rabbets are adapted to interlock with said tabs; and

wherein said blind rabbets and said tabs further include openings defined therethrough, said openings defined through said tabs have a different size than said opening defined through said blind rabbets, thereby allowing lateral and rotational motions between said interlocked adjacent seat modules.

4. (Original) The interlocking seating system of claim 3 wherein said body member provides a recessed area for receiving a plate having indicia thereon.

5. (Original) The interlocking seating system of claim 4 wherein said recessed area is tilted upward.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Amended) An interlocking seating system comprising:

- a support understructure;
- a plurality of seat modules, each of said seat modules includes a body member having a first interlocking means and a second interlocking means respectively positioned on a first and an opposing second side of said body member; and,
- a plurality of fasteners;

wherein the interlocking means of a first seat module is adapted to receive the interlocking means of a second seat module, thereby allowing two adjacent seat modules to interlock and be secured to said support understructure by said fasteners inserted through said interlocked interlocking means;

wherein each said body member further comprises reinforcement means for added rigidity, a curved front, a curved top, and a bottom having a concave surface formed therein; and

wherein said concave surface engages said curved top when said curved top is deflected downward by weight of an occupant.

8. (Original) The interlocking seating system of claim 7 wherein said seat modules are formed of plastic polymers.

9. (Original) The interlocking seating system of claim 8 further comprising end caps adapted for placement at an aisle of a seating row, said end caps include positions for receiving numbering and advertising plates.

10. (Original) The interlocking seating system of claim-5 wherein said openings defined through said tab of said interior seat module comprise a front elongated slot and a rear elongated slot, and wherein said rear slot is longer than said front slot.

11. (Original) The interlocking seating system of claim 5 wherein said openings defined through said tabs of said interior seat modules are notches.

Duchet et al 12. (Previously Amended) A seat module for installation on a support comprising:

a one-piece body member having a first and a second engagement member disposed at a first and an opposing second side of said body member, respectively; said first and second engagement members further including openings therethrough for receiving fasteners;

wherein an engagement member of a first said seat module is adapted to receive an engagement member of a second said seat module, thereby allowing the interlocking and placement of said first and said second seat modules in a side by side relationship, to be secured to said support by fasteners through said openings; and

wherein said interlocked first and second seat modules are adapted to substantially pivot relative to one another.

ocket tab

13. (Original) The seat module of claim 12 wherein said body member provides
a recessed area for receiving a plate having indicia thereon.

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14. (Original) The seat module of claim 13 wherein said first engagement member comprises a tab and said second engagement member comprises a blind rabbet; wherein said tab includes a rib disposed thereon, and said rib impinges a contacted surface of a blind rabbet of an adjacent seat module after assembly, thereby discouraging relative movement between said adjacent seat modules.

15. (Previously Amended) A seat module comprising:
a one-piece body member having a first and a second engagement member disposed at a first and an opposing second side of said body member, respectively;
said first and second engagement members further including openings therethrough for receiving fasteners;
wherein an engagement member of a first said seat module is adapted to receive an engagement member of a second said seat module, thereby allowing the interlocking and placement of said first and said second seat modules in a side by side relationship, to be secured to said support by fasteners through said openings;
wherein said openings defined through said first engagement member comprises a front slot and a rear elongated slot wherein said rear elongated slot is longer than said front elongated slot; and wherein said openings defined through said second engagement member are apertures.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The seat module of claim 13 wherein said first and second engagement members comprise at least one blind rabbet recess in a side of said body member.

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18. (Currently Amended) The seat module of claim [17] 12 wherein said [apertures] openings further include counterbores adapted to receive heads of said fasteners.

19. (Previously Amended) A seat module comprising:
a one-piece body member having a first and a second engagement member disposed at a first and an opposing second side of said body member, respectively;
said first and second engagement members further including openings therethrough for receiving fasteners;
wherein an engagement member of a first said seat module is adapted to receive an engagement member of a second said seat module, thereby allowing the interlocking and placement of said first and said second seat modules in a side by side relationship; to be secured to a support by fasteners through said openings;
wherein said body member provides a recessed area for receiving a plate having indicia thereon; and

wherein each said body member further includes reinforcement means to provide added rigidity, a curved front, a curved upper surface, and a bottom having a concave surface formed therein and adapted to receive said curved upper surface when said curved upper surface is being deflected down by weight of an occupant; and wherein said recessed area is tilted upward.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Amended) A seating system comprising:

a support having a plurality of interior seat positions and first and second end seat positions within a sitting row;

a plurality of interior seat modules adapted for placement on said interior seat positions and said first end seat position, each of said plurality of interior seat modules comprising a body member having a tab protruding from a first side and a blind rabbet recessed in a second side of said body member;

an aisle seat module adapted for placement on said second end seat position, comprising a body member having at least one blind rabbet recess in a side of said body member;

a plurality of fasteners for attaching said interior and aisle seat modules to said support;

wherein said tabs and said blind rabbets further includes openings disposed therethrough for receiving said fasteners, said blind rabbets are adapted to receive said tabs whereby a seating row can be built by pivotably interlocking a plurality of said

interior seat modules and capping said plurality of said interlocked interior seat modules with said aisle seat modules, and attaching said interlocked interior and aisle seat modules to said support by said fasteners through said openings; and

wherein said body member provides a recessed area for receiving a plate having indicia thereon and wherein said recessed area is tilted upward.

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22. (Previously Amended) A seating system comprising:

a support having a plurality of interior seat positions and first and second end seat positions within a sitting row;

a plurality of interior seat modules adapted for placement on said interior seat positions and said first end seat position, each of said plurality of interior seat modules comprising a body member having a tab protruding from a first side and a blind rabbet recessed in a second side of said body member;

an aisle seat module adapted for placement on said second end seat position, comprising a body member having at least one blind rabbet recess in a side of said body member;

a plurality of fasteners for attaching said interior and aisle seat modules to said support; end caps adapted for placement at said end seat position for receiving plates having indicia thereon; and

wherein said tabs and said blind rabbets further includes openings disposed therethrough for receiving said fasteners;

wherein said blind rabbets are adapted to receive said tabs whereby a seating row can be built by interlocking a plurality of said interior seat modules and capping said plurality of said interlocked interior seat modules with said aisle seat modules; and

wherein said interlocked interior and aisle seat modules are attachable to said support by said fasteners through said openings.

wherein said body member provides a recessed area for receiving a plate having indicia thereon and wherein said recessed area is tilted upward.

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23. (Previously Amended) The seating system of claim 21 wherein said openings disposed through said blind rabbets are apertures.

24. (Original) The seating system of claim 23 wherein said openings disposed through said tabs comprise a front slot and a rear slot, wherein said front and rear slots are larger than said apertures, and said rear slot is longer than said front slot, thereby allowing lateral and angular positions between adjacent seat modules to be adjusted.

25. (Original) The seating system of claim 23 wherein said openings disposed through said tabs are notches adapted to allow passage of said fasteners, thereby enabling lateral and angular position between adjacent interlocked seat modules to be adjusted.